

Emailed to: D01-SMB-DPWPublicComments@uscg.mil

RE: USCG PROJECT # 01-21-090

This email is in response to the US Coast Guard District 1's Notice To Mariners, Week 01/22, request for public comments regarding the removal of the Federal Navigational Aids in Milton Harbor.

Without the navigational buoys, we would be in trouble.

My boating friends and I are completely against the proposal. The navigational aids are important to all of us to navigate safely from the Boat Basin at the head of the harbor all the way through the harbor on our way to and from LI Sound, with the respective aids kept in view throughout the passage.

There are numerous submerged hazards, shoals and outcroppings in close proximity to the Federal Channel, particularly for the inner portions of the harbor closer to the boat basin. While at low tides some of these obstructions are visible, many others are not, and if you go outside the Federal Channel it is easy to run into them. The navigational buoys are critical to the safe navigation through the harbor.

Milton Harbor is used year round for fishing, sailing yachting, cruising, transients, frostbiting, regattas, kayakers, paddle boarders, canoers, and numerous youth programs. In addition to the municipal boat basin, which is also home to the marine police and first responders, the harbor has three boat clubs, a rowing club, a residential island that is only accessible by water – mostly from the municipal boat basin at the head of the harbor – as well as numerous private residential docks.

It is estimated that there are over 5,150 users not including event participants and transients of the harbor with 1,216 boats ranging from dinghies to yachts of over 100 feet.

Please keep the navigational aids in Milton Harbor for safe navigation.

Sincerely,

Boat Make _____ length _____

cc: Ryeharbor@ryeny.gov

